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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Need For Meeting

IT is in the nature of alliances or coalitions to fall apart. It is in the nature of democracies to reach decision through confusion. It is therefore to be expected that in a democratic coalition the ultimate aim should often be lost in a maze of cross-purposes. Such an alliance needs to be refreshed by frequent, authoritative contacts. It is suggested that the time is fast arriving when the North Atlantic Powers, certainly Britain and America, must arrange another high-level meeting. Certain marked differences in policy are beginning to appear on each side of the Atlantic. The most important of them is concerned with the meaning and end of rearmament. In 1947 the US evolved the "Truman Doctrine," which was a policy of "containing" Russia by strengthening friendly countries. After the outbreak of the Korean war in 1950 that leisurely programme was superseded by a furious rearmament which would not only protect the Western countries but also enable them to "speak on equal terms" with Russia. In other words, the West was no longer content simply to shove back where Russia pushed forward. Rearmament was designed to give the initiative to the West. Now there has come a subtle change. British rearmament is to flatten out. Mr Churchill says: "If the cold war is to continue, and it certainly does not rest with us," we cannot afford vast defence expenditure over an indefinite period. This is the little less that brings us to a half-way house which is more than "containment" but less than full rearmament. It might be called a policy of containment-plus.

DO the American Government agree to this change? They have made a very severe cut in dollar aid to France, which Mr Acheson admits will slow down Western rearmament. But whatever the US Government think, the Republican Party have denounced the "negative, futile, and immoral policy of containment." They want "liberation"—which means that, at some point, the rearmament West must tell Russia to clear out of Eastern Europe. Many things are said during Presidential elections which are afterwards discreetly forgotten. But this important principle undoubtedly represents a powerful section of American public opinion. So there is a head-on clash in defence policy. There is another in the economic field. Mr Thorneycroft says that America must open her markets to British goods. President Truman agrees. But the Republicans say that, if need be, tariffs must actually be raised against imports. These very considerable differences call for correction. If they are allowed to flourish unchecked the tendency to fall apart will become more marked, and Russia will be the only gainer. This is why there should be another top-level North Atlantic meeting. First, however, the British countries must arrive at a coherent Commonwealth policy. They must stop cutting imports against one another. They must expand, not contract. When that policy has been hammered out in London next November, Britain should make haste to confer with Washington. The time will be ripe, for by then the US will have a new President.

BULGARIANS EVACUATE DISPUTED ISLAND

Situation Is 'Still Very Dangerous'

Athens, Aug. 7.

The Greek General Staff announced tonight that the Bulgarians had evacuated the disputed island of Gamma in the Evros River after undergoing several hours of continuous shelling. A communique said the Bulgarians withdrew this evening.

Earlier, Greek observers had reported that the Bulgarians were leaving the island and returning to their own side of the river as Greek troops kept up a rain of mortar shells. The fire was not returned by the Bulgarians.

United Nations observers reported from the Greek-Bulgarian frontier that big forces from both countries were ready for action and the situation was "very dangerous."

The observers said: "The Greek national army intends to use force to recapture Gamma Island and a very dangerous situation may follow" if those measures are taken.

"Intervention by the United Nations may possibly save the situation," the observers' report, dated yesterday, added.

HOTEL TRAGEDY

U.S. Businessman Found Hanged

Mr Henry W. Hume, aged 56, an American citizen, was found hanged in his room on the sixth floor of the Gloucester Hotel this morning.

The discovery was made by a room-boy at about 9.15 a.m. when he called at the room.

The police were informed immediately, but life was later removed to the mortuary.

Mr Hume, a former United States Army Air Force pilot in World War I, has been living in the hotel since October, 1946. He was carrying on general business on his own.

A man of quiet disposition, Mr Hume was well-liked. He was born in India and was a Colonel in the United States Armed Forces Reserves.

Mr Hume was a graduate of Yale University.

600 Passengers Stranded

London, Aug. 7.

Firemen smashed windows to let in air to 600 passengers in a London subway train stranded underground early today by power cuts which cut the electric power.

For four hours the passengers joked and sang until a steam locomotive was shunted alongside to rescue them. There was no panic.

Flooding after the severe thunderstorms and cloudbursts over London and southern England last night caused widespread displacement of the subway system today. Thousands were late for work.—Reuter.

Big Melbourne Robbery

Melbourne, Aug. 7.

Thieves today stole 33,593 Australian pounds (£2,268,774) from a basement room in the heart of Melbourne in what is believed to be Australia's biggest robbery.

The money, an Army payroll, was taken from a room behind a mid-city bank used by a carrying firm as its headquarters for its armoured car escort section.

The money was in an ammunition box ready for delivery to army barracks in the suburbs. The robbery was kept secret by the police for 12 hours while they investigated. They had not found the money tonight and no arrests have been made.—Reuter.

Royal Family Leave London

London, Aug. 7.

Queen Elizabeth the Second, with the Duke of Edinburgh and their two children, the Duke of Cornwall and Princess Anne, left London in the Royal Train tonight for Balmoral Castle in Scotland.

The Queen's Mother will fly tomorrow from London to join them at the Castle, where they will be in residence until the autumn.

Princess Margaret accompanied the Royal party in tonight's train.—Reuter.

Coronation Goblets



Signs of next year's Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II are already in evidence, and at the Whitefriars Glass Works, Wexham, Middlesex, goblets are being made to mark the occasion. Picture shows Mr W. J. Wilson, the designer, engraving one of the glass goblets.

Rhee's Ex-Communist Presidential Opponent Disappears Into Hiding

From RALPH WALLING

Pusan, Aug. 7.

Chò Pang-am, South Korea's "man of stone" and a reformed Communist who tried and failed to oust President Syngman Rhee as head of the State for the next four years, has disappeared.

There is plenty of evidence, however, that Chò is in hiding after piling up 800,000 votes in his whirlwind presidential campaign. He had not returned home or to his National Assembly office; no one knew or would say when he would be back.

Chò was last seen on Monday at Seoul where he was unable to hold election meetings before Tuesday's poll, and was swamped by the Rhee vote there. He is thought to have gone to ground in its working class suburbs, 300 miles from Pusan where he nearly defeated Rhee, and actually did in one of his five wards.

Many of his workers have gone into hiding with him. At Inchon, gunmen entered his campaign headquarters. The workers fled.

Rhee himself, in a troubled aftermath of his re-election, also kept away from Pusan and his hillside home there. He is remaining in Seoul, probably until Friday, when he must be in Pusan for the inauguration of his second term of office.

The observers' report that big forces from both sides are ready for action. Greek national army intends to use force to recapture Gamma Island. A very dangerous situation may follow if something as above mentioned happens. Greek Government asked to take the necessary steps to the United Nations so that the United Nations can go between. Direct action of the United Nations may possibly save the situation.—Reuter.

TROUBLE LOOMS

Election portraits were hurriedly removed and posters were torn, scraped and even scratched with penknives off walls.

Trouble loomed. A Cabinet shake-up is coming. So is another upheaval of the constitution. For Rhee has served Parliament with notice that he isn't going to let Parliament clip his powers by keeping the one right it secured out of the battle lost to prevent his re-election by popular vote. This right was to veto the all-powerful Cabinet out of office after one year and make the Prime Minister responsible for appointing a new one.

Rhee is expected to dismiss the Edinburgh University educated Prime Minister Chang for a start after next Wednesday's reassembly of Parliament.

Watching him will be out-of-favour Lee Sun-suck who today bid for Rhee's renewed friendship.

Beggar's Lucrative Business

Wille, Cozens, 34-year-old crippled beggar, from Dallas, returned to the road, in his 1952 Lincoln today after the police put a sudden end to his lucrative business here.

Police officers E. W. Stevenson and E. R. McDonald became suspicious when they found Billy Joe Hill, 19, at a store attempting to get \$50 worth of nickles and dimes changed into bigger-denomination currency. They followed Hill around the corner to Wille, who sat on the pavement in a dilapidated little wagon propelled by his hands.

The rag-clothed Wille was holding out his hat, urging passers-by to "help me help myself."

"Dallas was kind of slow and I was looking for a lucky break," he told the officers. "I'm just trying to help myself make a living."

Referring to Hill, he said, "Yes, I gave him the money. He's my chauffeur. When I get little money I get it changed into bigger money."

He said he had made \$114 in two days and "these Oklahoma City people have hearts of gold."

—United Press.

Police Chase Tramp In Search For Murderer

Lurs, Southern France, Aug. 7.

Detectives raced to the Mediterranean coast tonight looking for a tramp in a tattered black suit who they believe left the footprints found near the body of 11-year-old Elizabeth Drummond.

Grimy, unshaven, aged between 40 and 50, the new suspect had been prowling for three days round the village of Peyruis, four miles from the scene of the Drummond triple murder.

He had taken up his abode in an old ruined house there. Searching it, police found footprints which, they said tonight, were "absolutely identical" with the very clear boot marks close to Elizabeth, who was lying in a ditch with her head battered in.

And motorists report that half an hour before the shots which killed Elizabeth's parents the same tramp in tattered black suit and beret was seen within a mile of the spot.

WAFDISTS MAY SPLIT

Cairo, Aug. 7.

Egypt's powerful Wafd Party may be headed for a full-fledged split in the wake of the present purge, political observers said here today.

Observers predicted that disaffected Party members were likely to retaliate by making penetrating accusations against remaining members before the Party's clean-up committee.

Such a jolt might result in reducing the Wafd to secondary importance in the country's political life and bringing the Muslim Brotherhood to the fore as the leading party, observers said.

Meanwhile, it is understood that one reason for "strong man" General Mohammed Naguib's frequent visits to the Prime Minister, Ali Mahdy, was to make plans for increasing the Army budget by cutting Government spending elsewhere. General Naguib is known as the champion of a strong Egyptian Army and the quickest possible rearmament.

The Egyptian Cabinet today imposed an extra 20 per cent. import tax on motorcars, watches, photographic apparatus, musical instruments and articles made of wool, cotton and artificial and pure silk. An additional 30 per cent. tax was imposed on imported wines, spirits and cigars and 20 per cent. on beer.—United Press.

The interrogation yielded no clues, but police said they were convinced the farmer had not told everything he knew. They believed he was holding something back through fear of the killer.

Police combed the buildings on Dominick's farm after the questioning.

The quiet little terraced town of Forcalquier, where a passing aircraft is a major event to its 3,000 people, was in mourning today for the funeral of the Drummonds.

Shops along the tree-lined streets rolled down their shutters.

The three oak coffins lay surrounded by wreaths in a small room, hung with French and British flags, in the local hospital.

A bunch of carnations from a five-year-old French girl, Catherine Rejeune, with the words "A souvenir from a little French girl," lay on the coffin of Elizabeth.—Reuter.

FUNERAL

Forcalquier, Aug. 7.

The three bodies of the murdered Drummond family, in their plain oak coffins, were buried here tonight—with a vow by the Mayor that France "will not rest until we have found the assassin who committed this heinous crime."

Hundreds of townsfolk in their sombre Sunday suits attended the ceremony.

The only splashes of colour in the little, white-walled cemetery were the summer frocks of the girls who had come with their elders to mourn.

A strange silence hung over the town when the long cortège left the hospital where the bodies had lain for the last three days. Shutters were drawn over shop windows, cafes had closed their doors.

The last rays of the sun burnished the snow-capped peaks of the distant Alps as the cortège passed through the gates of the cemetery.—Reuter.

Loss Of Life In Manila Floods

Manila, Aug. 8.

High tides and heavy rains flooded Manila for the third consecutive day and the police reported the death of six persons, four from drowning and two in accidents caused by the heavy rains.

Those drowned included three children. Thirty-four persons were treated in hospital for minor injuries caused by the flood, which has covered all low areas of the city including the heart of the business district. The capital, suffering from the worst inundation in five years, already has sustained thousands of pesos' damage to streets alone.

Weather men predicted more rain. Many schools remained temporarily closed.—United Press.

One Dead, One Missing, Two Safe In Rhine Air Disaster

Wiesbaden, Aug. 7.

Two of the crew of an American twin-engine bomber jumped clear when the plane crashed into the Rhine river today with one engine on fire.

One body was recovered from the wreckage when it was lifted out of the river.

Another man is still missing, an eyewitness said. He may have jumped or fallen out of the B-29 onto an island in the middle of the river.

A United States Air Force helicopter landed on the island soon after the crash, but found nothing.

Boats on the Rhine picked out the two men who jumped. They have cuts and bruises and are suffering from shock.

The recovered body was wearing a parachute harness. His open parachute hung to the wreckage.

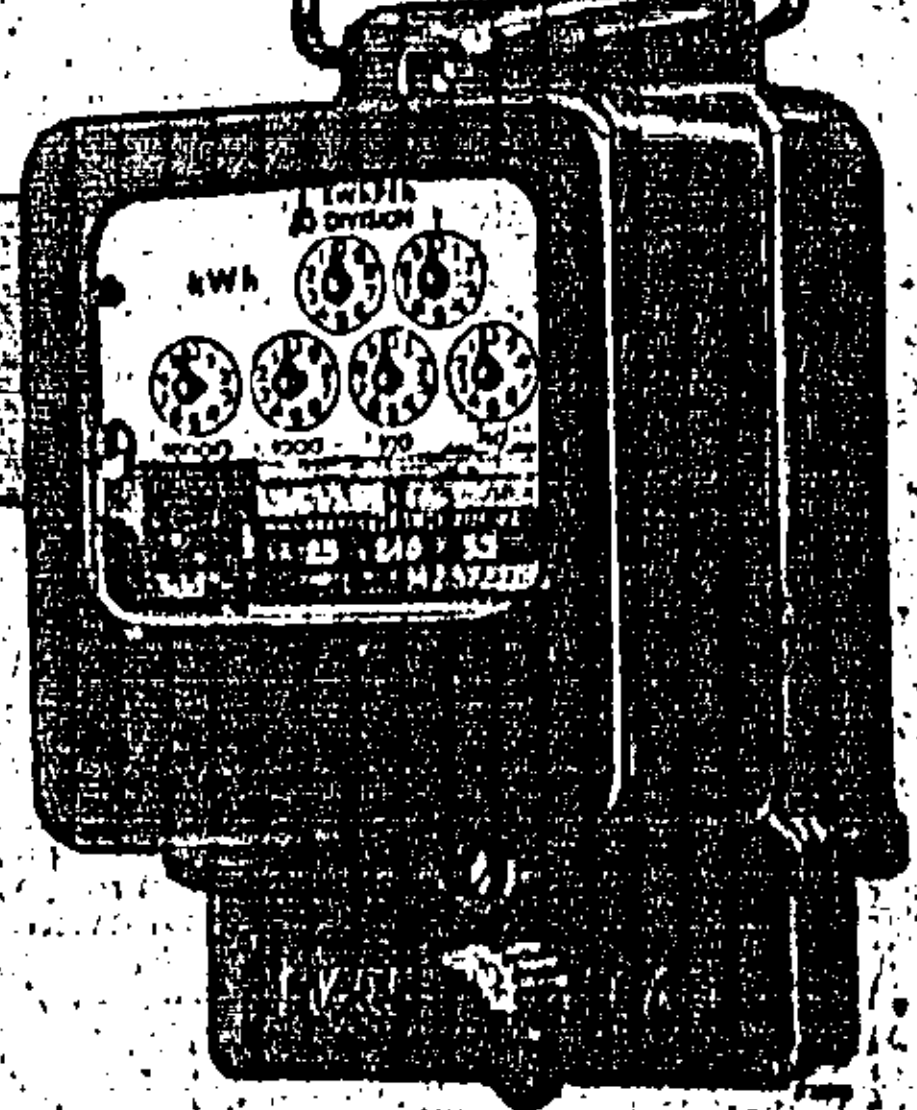
It appeared he had tried to jump but got caught in the plane and was drawn under.

Earlier, divers went down into the Rhine to try and rescue the men believed trapped in the wreckage.

The plane broke into three pieces.

An American Air Force spokesman said one engine of the plane exploded shortly after it had taken off from Wiesbaden to fly to Bavaria.—Reuter.

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Textile Markets Slump Leads To Grave Crisis In French "Lancashire"

UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES GROWING

Paris, Aug. 7.

A crisis in France's once-busy textile mills in the north has caused the most serious unemployment situation to hit any branch of the country's industry since the war.

As home and foreign demand for textile goods slumped during the past year, factory after factory in the French "Lancashire" has gone on to short time and in some cases, closed down entirely.

An estimated 70 per cent of the 500,000 workers in the trade, the bulk of them concentrated in the triangle Lille-Roubaix-Tourcoing in the industrial north-east, are, to a lesser or greater degree on reduced hours or idle.

Of this total of 350,000, about 15,000 are unemployed.

The crisis, which has been brewing since 1950, has reached its peak during the last six months. It is caused mainly by the decrease in exports and the wave of imports of manufactured textile goods into France since 1950.

Exports of cloth and fabrics, which reached the record figure of 2,482 tons a month in the first quarter of 1951, fell sharply to 800 tons a month in the first quarter of this year. The slump was largely due to restrictive import programmes abroad, particularly in Britain and Australia, and to the high price of French products.

High prices result from heavy production costs which in turn are blamed to the use of outdated machinery and the payment of women workers on the same basis as men.

IMPORT DELUGE

Spokesmen for the industry, however, put the major blame for the crisis on the deluge of imports of textile goods which reached an all-time record of 2,110 tons a month in the first quarter of 1952, or almost ten per cent of home production.

Foreign countries, experiencing domestic selling difficulties and helped by the French trade liberalisation policy with other members of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (O.E.C.C.), flooded the French market with goods at competitive prices.

In the three textile towns, where 80 out of every 100 workers are employed by the mills, the net result has been a 40 to 45 per cent slow-down in production since last October.

A recent survey by the Association of Textile Manufacturers revealed that of 450 factories, 32 per cent were working the normal 40-hour week; 23 per cent, between 35 and 40 hours; and 40 per cent, less than 35 hours. Five per cent have closed.

First hit when laying-off notices are handed out are the 5,000 North Africans employed in the industry. Next in line are the Belgians from the border region who, in times of labour shortage, help to fill the gaps.

HARD LOT

Then comes the turn of the women and girls from the nearby coal-mining area who travel to and from work daily by train. Last to go are the local inhabitants of the three towns.

In these days of soaring food prices, the lot of the unemployed worker is a hard one. He is not eligible for a dole if there is another wage earner in the family.

family or if his income from other sources is more than 8,000 francs (about £20) a fortnight for a bachelor or 9,800 francs (about £24) for a married man.

Unemployment pay amounts to 225 francs (about £5.6) a day plus 100 francs (2/-) for each dependent, available only after the worker has been registered as unemployed for 10 days.

It would need more than the natural ingenuity of the French housewife adequately to feed a family of three on 350 francs (about 11/-) a day—the price of four mutton chops in Paris today.

ANXIETY GROWING

The people of the industrial "black country" are a dour race. They are not demonstrative or vociferous, and except for the knots of idle men gathered in the streets and squares and the long, silent queues outside the labour exchanges, distress in the area is not immediately obvious.

But every day the signs of depression are increasing, as grocery bills mount up and household goods accumulate on pawnbrokers' shelves.

In the smoke-begrimed cottages which line the narrow cobbled streets, anxiety is growing lest the crisis be not solved before the winter.

The textile manufacturers have made drastic proposals to the Government in an attempt

to reach a swift solution. But so far the Government, beset by a host of other economic problems, has not reacted.

SIX POINTS

The main points of their proposed programme are:

1. That all textile imports be banned and import duties previously removed to check high domestic prices be re-imposed.

2. That preferential markets be given to French products in the country's overseas territories.

3. That existing stocks be purchased by the army and orders increased from the armament industry and State services.

4. The provision of easier credit facilities for manufacturers.

5. Preferential tariffs for coal, electricity and transport used in the production of textiles for export.

6. A reduction in super-tax so as to leave enough profit over for development and replacement of out-dated machinery by modern equipment.

—Reuter.

Police In Bangkok Declare War On Nakhengs In City

Bangkok, Aug. 7.

The police of Bangkok have declared war on the city's hoodlums — known here as "nakhengs." Ever since the end of World War II, gangs of these tough young hooligans making an easy living off Bangkok's peaceful citizens, have been on the increase.

The nakhengs have engaged in almost everything, from armed robbery to protection racket. They have operated brazenly and openly and, until now, with contemptuous indifference to the police.

In recent months, the nakhengs have:

1. Held up buses in the main streets of Bangkok in broad daylight and systematically robbed the passengers;

2. Seized lorry loads of imported goods on their way from the docks to the city;

3. Robbed and beaten up pedestrians in central shopping areas.

Many of these crimes have been committed amid crowds of people and often within a stone's throw of a police box.

The nakhengs have also engaged in most forms of extortion.

Although people living in residential areas already have watchmen to protect their houses from theft, they are often asked to subscribe to a night patrol of the area.

PARKING RACKET
To refuse would mean certain trouble from the nakhengs. The householder pays up. But he is unlikely to see a patrol more than once or twice a month.

The parking lot racket, common in many cities of the East, is another of the nakhengs' lines of business.

At public parking places, there are usually a number of self-appointed attendants who levy a fee on cars left there.

Refusal to pay may mean deep scratches in the paintwork or possibly the theft of head-lamp covers and other removable parts.

The ordinary Bangkok citizen does not like trouble and has put up with the hooligans with only an occasional mild complaint.

Some people who have been brave and perhaps foolish enough to protest have been badly beaten up.

Many of the nakhengs are flashy dressed dandies in coloured shirts, wide trousers and sharply pointed shoes.

Too lazy to work, they prefer to take an easy way to easy money.

Lisbon "Cats Lady" Dead

Lisbon, Aug. 7.
About 80 cats sat mewing sadly around the body of Senhora Ana Joaquina when neighbours broke in to find her dead in her solitary Lisbon home. Senhora Joaquina, aged 74, was known as the "cats' old lady" because she spent her time collecting food for them in the poorer parts of the city. Cats trooped after her wherever she went. —Reuter.

Whale Tooth Presented To Gen. Templer

Singapore, Aug. 7.

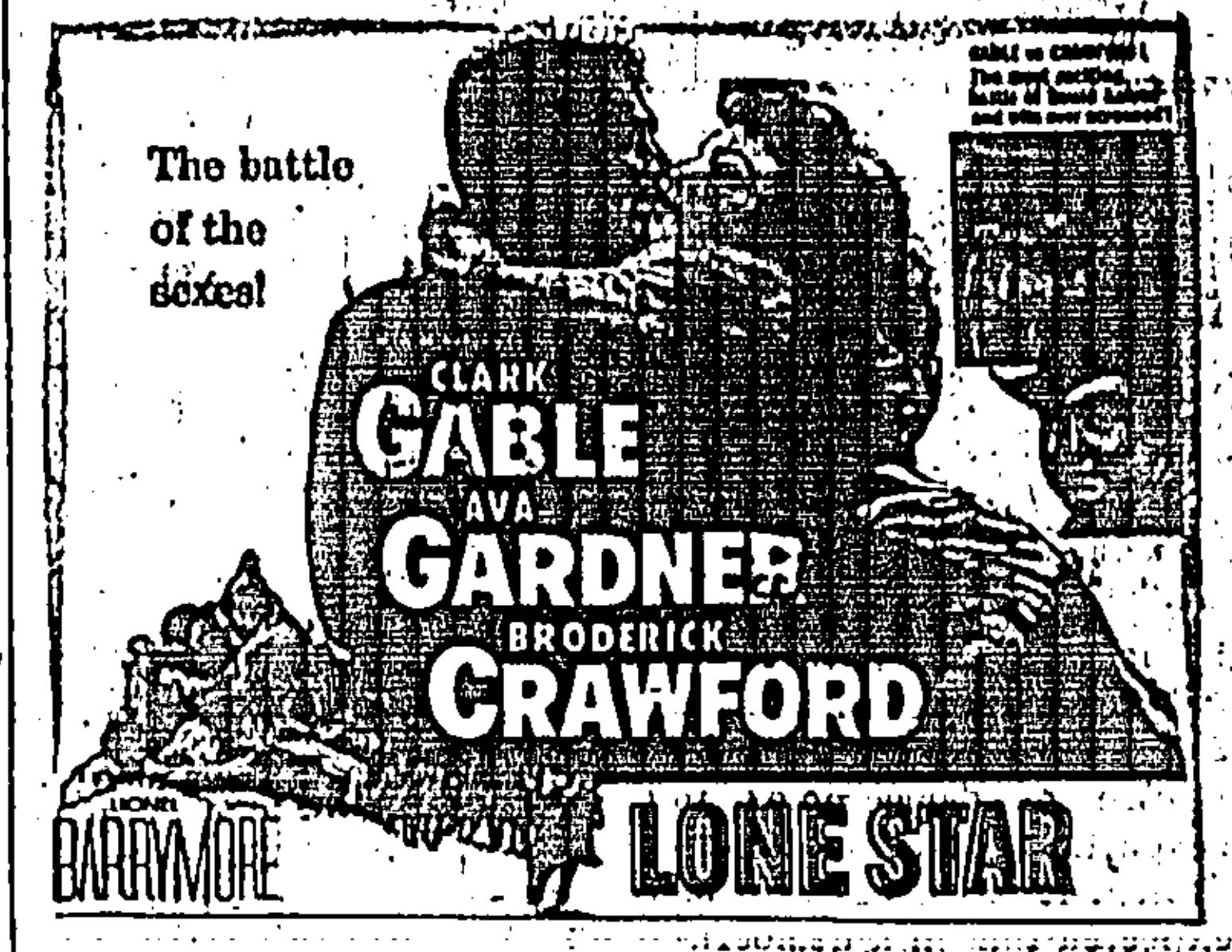
The Fijian Battalion in Malaya today ceremoniously welcomed as a Guest of Honour the High Commissioner, General Sir Gerald Templer, when he made his first visit to the Battalion Headquarters at Bahau in Negri Sembilan.

In their traditional manner the chanting Islanders, stripped to the waist, presented General Templer with an ancient polished whale tooth, an honour reserved only for those of high rank and importance.

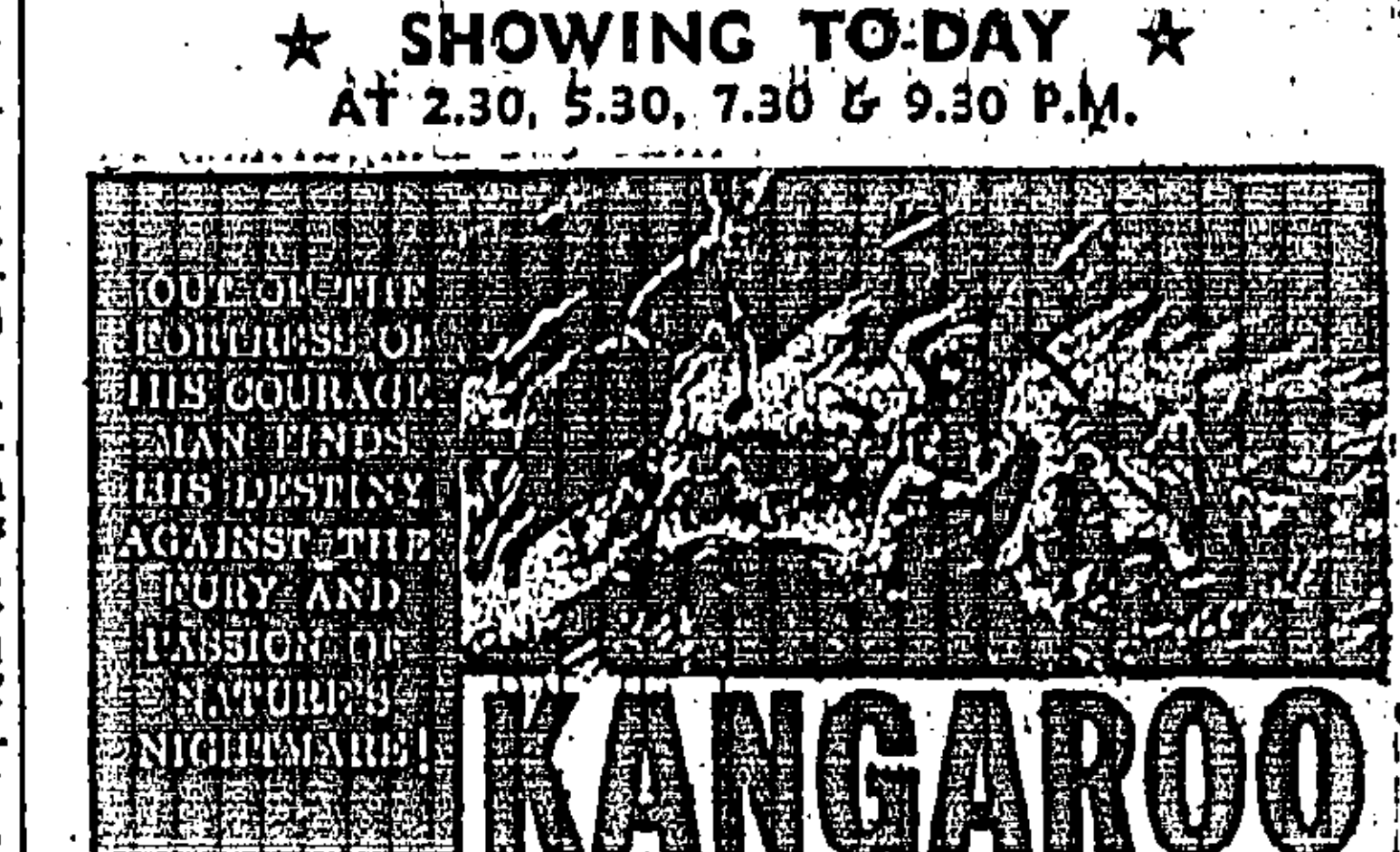
When the ceremony was completed, General Templer congratulated the Battalion on their "great start" in operations against Communist terrorists, and praised the men for the manner in which they associated themselves with the interest of the local communities. —Reuter.

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Barter Deal With Peking Was Too Big

Bonn, Aug. 7.

The West German Economics Ministry turned down an agreement between a big West German firm and Communist China providing for an exchange of goods worth 180 million marks both ways, a Ministry spokesman said today.

The Ministry, he said, did not permit the deal because it was too big for one single firm. There was no firm in West Germany which could risk 180 million marks, he added.

"We had the feeling that this deal went beyond normal commercial scope,"

Government authorities said the deal could have been carried out only under a regular trade and payments agreement between West Germany and China, which however, does not yet exist.

Until such an agreement was concluded, the Economics Ministry was said to be willing to approve barter deals in special cases. —Reuter.

Jap Machinery For Pakistan

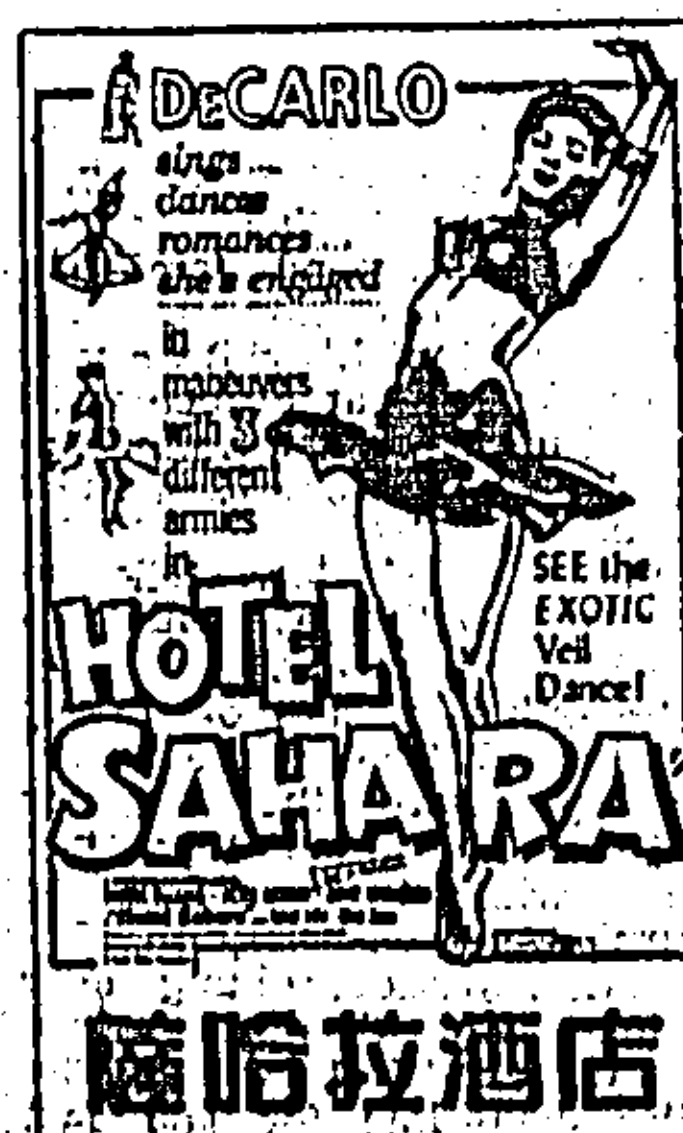
Rawalpindi, Aug. 7.

Japanese machinery is being installed in the Pakistan Government's silk demonstration factory at Rawalpindi to boost the country's silk production.

The Punjab Industries Department is making arrangements to develop cocoon breeding throughout the province to supply the factory's raw material. —Reuter.

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20, 8, Jack Street
21, 9, The Great Caruso
22, 10, The Great Caruso
23, 11, The Great Caruso
24, 12, The Great Caruso



Philatelists Victimised

Belgrade, Aug. 7. Yugoslav stamp experts have declared a flood of rare stamps of the old independent State of Croatia now circulating in the United States to be forgeries.

The forgeries are said to have been made by adherents of the Croatian Fascist Ustashi movement who fled to America after the war.

Collectors paid high prices but the American police became suspicious, sent two sets to Yugoslavia for testing.

The stamps are believed to have been produced probably last year somewhere in South America.—Reuter.

SINGAPORE IMPORTS FROM JAPAN

Increase Expected

Singapore, Aug. 7. Imports from Japan for the first half of 1952 totalled more than US\$47,000,000 with prospects of a greatly increased amount during the last six months of the year.

Goods brought in from Japan ranged from ping-pong rackets and other sports equipment to sewing machines, steel plates, asbestos and other building materials.

Sports goods merchants, who so far this year have bought more than \$3,000 worth of equipment from Japan, say they are interested in ping-pong rackets particularly.

The reason: These became popular in Southeast Asia when Japanese players used them at the 10th International Table Tennis tournament in Bombay.

Among other goods local merchants expect to receive in increasing numbers are farm appliances, rice polishers, noodle-making machines and scores of other manufactured articles.

There is a possibility that Japanese typewriter firms may find a market in Singapore and the Malay Federation. Experimentally, some dozen Japanese typewriter have been brought in since the first of the year. Merchants say they compare favourably with English, Swiss and other European makes, but do not come up to American standards.

Noodle-making machines being sold in Singapore ranged from small ones for household use to large ones.

More than 14,000 Japanese sewing machines have been sold in Singapore this year.—United Press.

Reds Fail In Effort To Paralyse Rail System Italian Strike Flops

Rome, Aug. 7.

Italian Communists slowed down rail traffic throughout Italy today but failed in their threat completely to paralyse the nation's railways.

The Government and the Communist Railwaymen's Union were tonight engaged in a battle of figures, each side bombarding the public with salvos of statistics.

According to the Government, the State railway network had up to early this evening run nearly 500 trains more than the special reduced timetable.

The railways' Press Office would not, however, say how the total number of trains running compared with the ordinary daily timetable.

The Communists said only about 800 train services out of a normal daily total of 6,000 had been run.

The Communists claim 110,000 members among the nation's 150,000 railwaymen. They said about 100,000 of their members had stayed away from work.

The Government put the absentee figure at 45,000.

The "free" (non-Communist) trade unions did not support today's strike.

It seemed tonight that the overall effect of the strike had been to slow down travellers rather than immobilise them.

Thousands of travellers waited throughout the day in the Rome railway station for trains which left. Some services left on schedule, others were "telecoped," resulting in crowded, behind-schedule trains.

But most people reached their destinations.

Anti-Communists here said tonight that the strike results showed a further weakening in the Communist hold on their trade union members. The Communists, on the other hand, claimed better results than in previous strikes.

Independent sources said it was probably true that at least 90 per cent of the Communist union members had stayed away, but they put the Communist union strength at around 70,000, not the 100,000 claimed by the Communists.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Communist-led General Confederation of Labour called the 24-hour strike "from midnight to press for higher wages, job reclassification and a series of other improvements in working conditions."

Christian Democrat and Social Democrat unions did not join the strike.

The Government employed the non-Communist workers to operate emergency services on the most important lines, supplementing them with special buses.

With the strike at the half-way mark the Railway Administration stated that the emergency services were sufficient to cope with all people who needed urgent transportation.

RUNNING SMOOTHLY

The Administration said all the 120 trains pre-arranged for today were running smoothly. In addition, 220 extra trains left in the first 11 hours of the strike.

Special arrangements were made for travellers reaching Italy from abroad. At border stations buses were waiting to take them to the nearest big cities.

Two hundred tourists from Greece who arrived at Brindisi, south Italy, by sea were able to leave in a fast train for Rome and points in north Italy.

Railway officials said only 275 workers out of 800 were idle at Bari.—Reuter.

President's Appeal To Voters

Washington, Aug. 7. President Truman, in a get-out-the-vote appeal, said today that when it comes to exercising the privilege of voting, "many other countries put us to shame."

He mentioned Japan as one example.

He also said, in a statement issued at his news conference, that present-day Americans are staying away from the polls far more than their fathers did.

THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT:

"Everybody is talking about the November election these days, but it seems to me they are putting the cart before the horse. The first order of business is registration. This is something that all Americans ought to think about right away."

Americans are mighty proud of their democratic system of government, but when it comes to voting, many other countries put us to shame. In 1948, for instance, only 51 per cent of eligible voters in this country went to the polls. In the last general election in France, 75 per cent of the eligibles voted; in Italy it was 89 per cent; in Canada 78 per cent; in Japan 71 per cent; in Israel 72 per cent; in Sweden 80 per cent; in England 83 per cent; and in the last election in Belgium, 90 per cent of the voters went to the polls.

DISTURBING FACT

"I am informed that, as of January of this year, more than 22,000,000 adult Americans were not even registered to vote. I think we should be disturbed by the fact that all during this century more and more citizens are staying away from the polls. In the election in 1900, for instance, more than 73 per cent of our citizens voted, and in 1880 more than 78 per cent of the eligibles voted."

"The privilege of voting is one of the most treasured rights on earth, as those who live in totalitarian countries can testify, but we cannot have a big vote in the country without a big registration."

"Newspapers, magazines, radio and TV, and other media can help to enlist interest in this subject. So, too, can the many non-partisan organizations that exist in every community."

"A great decision will be made by the electorate on November 4 this year, and I hope every American of voting age will participate in it."—Associated Press.

Going To See His Mother



Little Robertino Rossellini, seen arriving at the Salvatore Mundi Villa in Rome to visit his mother, Ingrid Bergman, who recently gave birth to twin daughters.—Express Photo.

Air-Conditioning Unit For Cars Perfected In U.S.

Detroit, Aug. 7.

After several years of experiments, development and testing, the General Motors Corporation has perfected an air conditioning unit for motor-cars.

Mr. C. E. Wilson, President of the Company, says that the unit is expected to be made available, as optional equipment at added cost, on 1953 models of the Company's cars.

Prolonged tests of the unit have been made at the General Motors Proving Ground at Phoenix, Arizona, in Southern Texas and elsewhere in areas of dry heat as well as in areas of high humidity.

Tests have shown that the heat inside a car which has been standing in the sun at high temperature can be reduced to a comfortable driving temperature within a distance of six city blocks and that within a mile and a half driving distance temperatures are appreciably reduced.

The new system provides adequate cooling even at slow speeds.

The principal mechanism of the air conditioning unit will be fixed on a shelf in the rear of the luggage boot without appreciably reducing baggage space.

A single control will be placed on the dashboard of the car and temperature can be maintained at a desired level by setting a thermostat.

BASIC PRINCIPLE

The air-conditioning device will be particularly useful in dusty areas or under windy conditions because the car can be driven in any temperature with the windows closed.

Wind noise and drafts in the car will also be substantially reduced.

Engineering test drivers of cars equipped with the new air-conditioning system report that they have driven in temperatures of 110 degrees Fahrenheit (about 43.3 Centigrade) in comfort.

The basic principle of the new system is the same as the cooling systems in offices and on trains. A rotary compressor is mounted on the engine. A completely sealed refrigeration unit, using non-toxic freon, is mounted on the shelf in the trunk. There is no appreciable difference in the exterior or interior appearance of the car equipped with the cooling system.

Mr. Wilson explained that development of the system was a challenging engineering problem due to space limitations in the car and because quick cooling is essential to satisfactory air conditioning in a motorcar.—Reuter.

German Mission To Ceylon

Colombo, Aug. 7. The first post-war German trade mission is expected to arrive in Ceylon next September.

The existing trade agreement with Germany, signed in December 1950, has been extended until August 30.—France Press.

NO EXTENSION OF THE PACIFIC DEFENCE PACT "AT THIS EARLY STAGE"

Decisions At Honolulu Conference

Honolulu, Aug. 7.

The "Pacific Three," the United States, Australia and New Zealand, have decided not to admit other powers to their Pacific defence alliance "at this early stage."

This became plain in a communique issued last night after three days of meetings between the Foreign Ministers of the three powers—the Anzus Defence Council.

The Council decided it would be premature now to broaden the pact to include other powers in, or directly concerned with, the Pacific area.

Nor did it intend to invite observers from other countries to its meetings. Britain, in particular, had been suggested as one nation which might send observers.

The communique said consultations would continue with "free" nations in the Pacific through existing channels.

The Foreign Ministers declared that the purpose of their Pacific Pact was "solely the defence of its members against aggression."

The communique said it was clear that the treaty was fully consistent with the principles of the United Nations Charter and the obligations of members under the Charter.

NO COMMITMENTS

"Furthermore, in our discussion of how best to contribute by constructive means to the security of the Pacific area, we have taken into account the membership of Australia and New Zealand in the British Commonwealth, and the United States participation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and its association by treaty with other American republics and with Japan and the Philippines," the communique said.

The communique said the Council had taken the opportunity to review situations of mutual concern to the three nations.

"We exchanged views on the operation of the United Nations in Korea and the problem of assisting the free nations of Asia to resist Communist imperialism."

"We emphasised, however, that we neither reached any decisions nor undertook any commitments regarding matters of direct concern to our friends in the Pacific area or elsewhere."

The communique emphasised that the Anzus treaty recognised that an armed attack in the Pacific area on any of the parties would be dangerous to the peace and security of all the signatories and declared that each would act to meet the common danger in accordance with constitutional processes.

PERIODIC MEETINGS

The communique announced the appointment of Admiral Arthur W. Radford, Chief of Staff of the United States Pacific Command, as the United States military representative accredited to the Council.

One military representative from each nation would be appointed to advise on problems of military co-operation in the Pacific.

The military representatives will meet periodically and will rotate between Pearl Harbor, Melbourne and Wellington. There will be an early meeting of the officers in Honolulu.

They will also meet in conjunction with the annual council meetings, which will be held successively in the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

At the morning session yesterday the Ministers dealt with the "Chinese Communist threat in the Pacific area," according to liaison officers.

In the three days of the conference views have been exchanged on the Russian and Chinese danger to world security.—Reuter.

Empire Forestry Conference

Ottawa, Aug. 7.

Forestry experts from 20 Commonwealth countries started to arrive today for the sixth British Commonwealth Forestry Conference which will be held from August 11 to September 13.

The delegates will discuss every phase of forestry, including the role of State communities and private enterprise in the development of national forest policy. The countries will pool technical knowledge and scientific skills to reduce the toll of fire, insects, disease and wasteful cutting.—United Press.

New Air Line In Tonkin

Hanoi, Aug. 7.

The privately-owned Agis Azur (Blue Eagle) airline has just started a weekly passenger service between Hanoi and the port city of Haiphong in the Gulf of Tonkin. The flight takes 30 minutes.

Travel by car over the military-controlled highway between the two cities requires nearly three hours.—Associated Press.

Uranium Rush In Canada Continuing

Uranium City, Aug. 7.

Sakatchewan's first uranium rush went into its fourth day today and hundreds of prospectors were still out in the bushland of the Beaverlodge area seeking a land holding.

Nearly 500 claims have been staked on the land which was opened to the public on Monday morning.

The Government authorities estimated that there are about 300 claim stakers in the area. A total of 22 square miles was staked during the first day of the rush, mostly by residents who worked on the Federal Government's El Dorado project on Lake Athabasca. Several hundred persons were reported to be in Athabasca Hills, centred mostly in a core of pitchblende.

These companies did nothing business on the 13-mile road for the first three days of the uranium rush, bringing in prospectors to the recorder's tent at Uranium City.

Showers of mosquitoes and black flies added to the general hardship of the stakers coming in to register.

Almost the entire population of the goldfields Black Bay Uranium City and miners' camp turned out in a bid for sudden wealth. American tourists abandoned fishing gear and joined the throng of prospectors on Monday morning, and continued activity in Uranium City was brought to a near standstill.

Several disputes have arisen among prospectors in connection with their claims. The authorities say that already a few cases of two prospectors staking the same tract of land have occurred.—United Press.

AUSTRALIAN PROJECT

Adelaide, Aug. 7.

The South Australian Government will spend nearly A£4,000,000 this financial year on the development of the State's uranium deposits, the Premier, Mr Playford, announced today.

The money is to be spent developing underground mining at Uranium Hill, erecting a treatment plant at Port Pirie and surveying new areas for the possible location of additional radioactive ores, Mr Playford said.

Arrangements had been made for loan advances to come from overseas.—United Press.

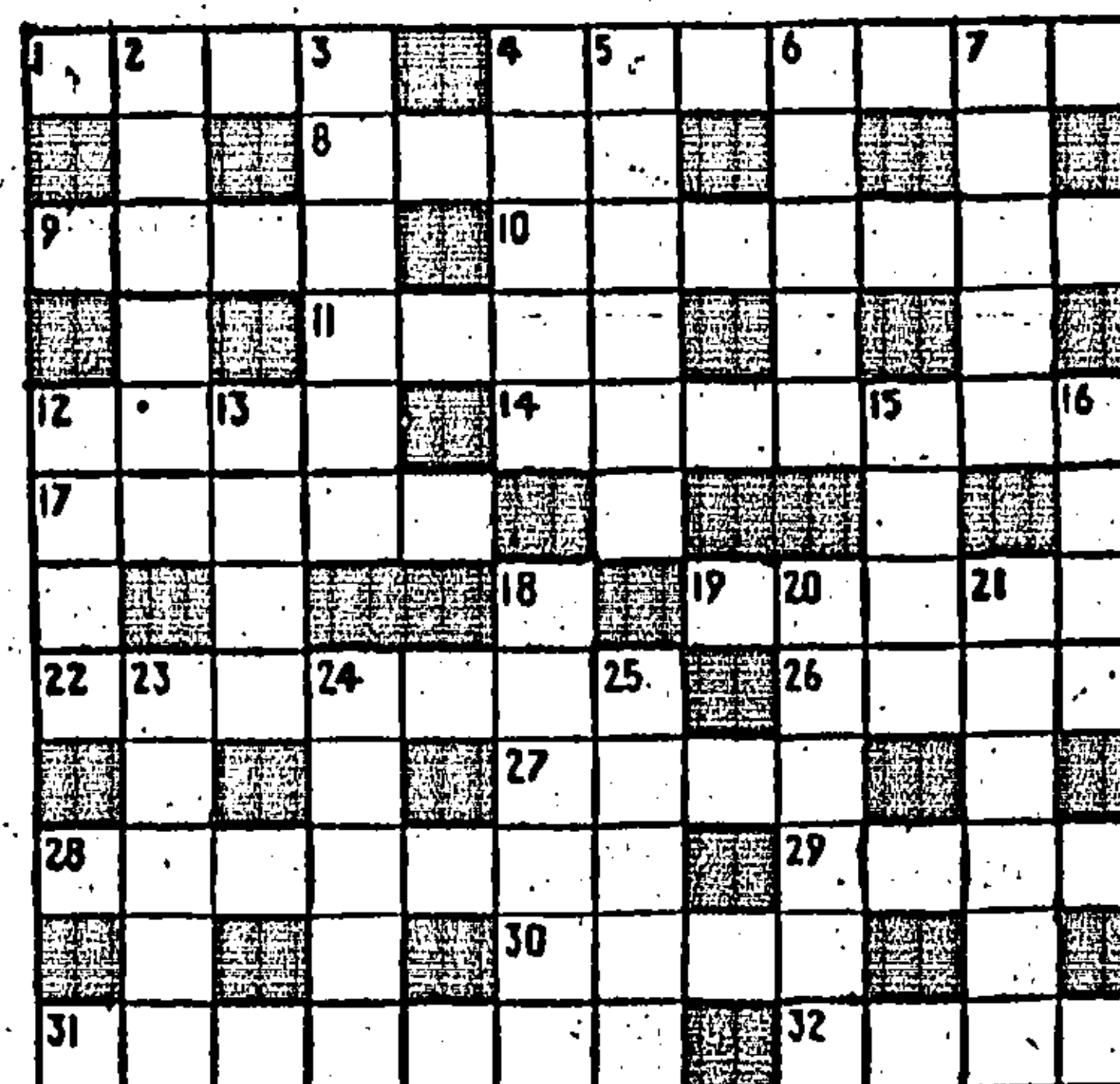
BANK GOVERNOR TO GO

Colombo, Aug. 7.

Ceylon's Finance Minister, Mr J. R. Jayawardene, told Parliament today that the term of office of the American Governor of the Ceylon Central Bank, Mr John Eilers, had not been extended.

A Ceylonese would be appointed Governor as soon as possible, he said.—Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- Support (4).
 - Large (7).
 - Give out (4).
 - Cooker (4).
 - Outstanding (7).
 - Midway (4).
 - Lower few feet of room-wall (4).
 - Venerable (7).
 - Unaccompanied (6).
 - Fall from grace (6).
 - Rushing stream (7).
 - Vain (4).
 - Present (4).
 - Speak imperfectly (7).
 - Discover (4).
 - Bring up (4).
 - State player (7).
 - Necessity (4).
- DOWN**
- Disclose (6).
 - Flag (6).
 - Of less importance (5).
 - Made up for (6).
 - Lean (6).
 - Dance (5).
 - Crazy (4).
 - Obstinate (4).
 - Ready for consumption (4).
 - Check (4).
 - Enrages (6).
 - Behind (6).
 - Specimen (6).
 - Eye (5).
 - Piece of machinery (5).
 - Weakness (5).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1 Sorrow, 5 Mosaic, 8 Molar, 9 Bestir, 10 Tact, 11 Treat, 12 Dosed, 13 Export, 14 Tease, 15 Testa, 16 Tact, 17 Cache, 18 Enraged, 19 Tact, 20 Tact, 21 Tact, 22 Tact, 23 Tact, 24 Tact, 25 Tact, 26 Tact, 27 Tact, 28 Tact, 29 Tact, 30 Tact, 31 Tact, 32 Tact.

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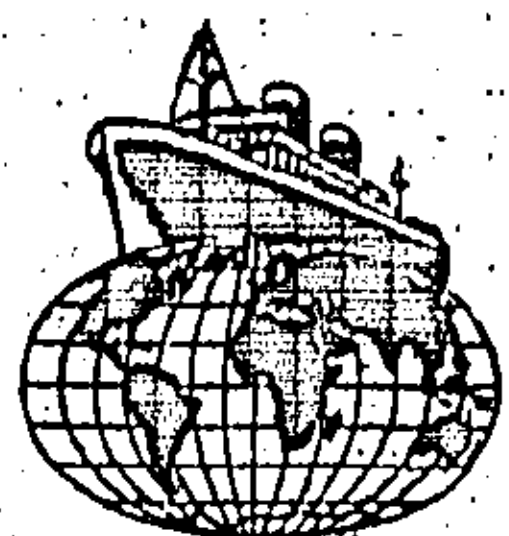
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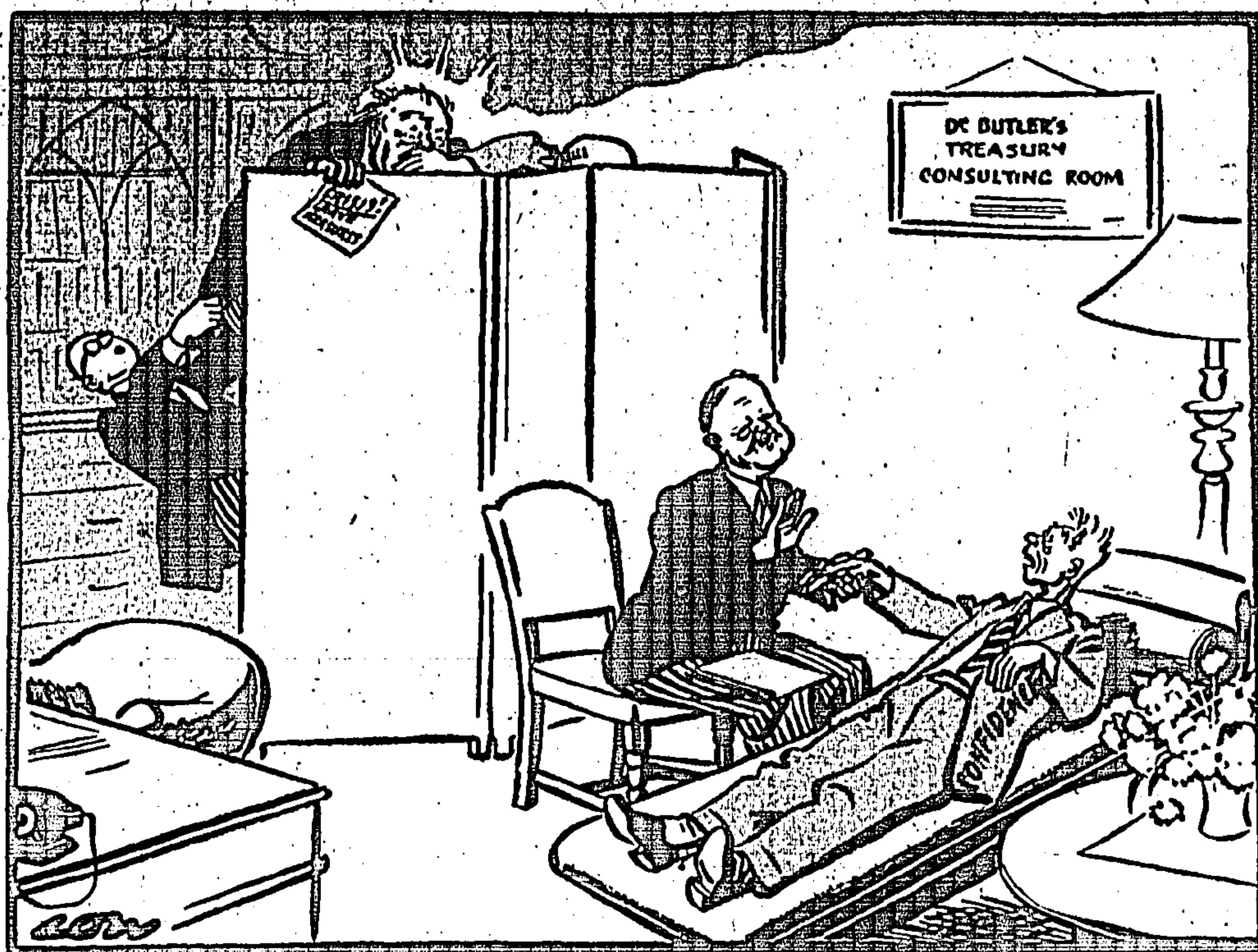
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EVITA ★ the LAST of the PETTICOAT POTENTATES

by
**SEFTON
DELMER**

HISTORY will confirm it: Evita has beaten them all—slim, peroxide-haired Eva Duarte, one-time dancer, daughter of a Buenos Aires rooming-house keeper, mighty consort of President Peron.

She has triumphed over all other stars on the world's post-war stage of petticoat potentates. Alone she is going to retain her influence and her power.

Where is Anna Pauker, Rumanian woman Communist, whose ruthless mouth and cruel eyes tell the story of her lifetime fight for power through prison, torture, intrigues? Six months ago she was still the undisputed ruler of Rumania, trusted confidante of Stalin. Today she is under arrest.

What about Mme. Chiang, the ambitious daughter of a Chinese millionaire? She married a young revolutionary soldier, devoted her life to making her husband ruler of China in order that she might rule through him. The last time I saw her, Mme. Chiang's empire had shrunk to a small white house on the island of Formosa, the only remaining stronghold of her husband's followers. Not even her husband listens to her now.

IRONY...

BUT Evita (a name she chose herself) Peron, by dying, has avoided the fall from power which undoubtedly would have come her way as well. Instead, as I see it, she is going to become even more influential after her death than ever she was in life. The entire propaganda machine of the Peron Party will now be put into top gear to canonize her as the self-sacrificing martyr who gave her life for the Argentine's underprivileged and oppressed.

The ironic thing is that the illness from which Evita Peron has died only just saved her last year from public humiliation. For Evita's not content with the reality of her influence as her husband's constant adviser and No. 1 public propagandist, wanted to be elected as his vice-president in the November elections. The army, however, flinched at the possibility of having to accept a woman, and an ex-dancer at that, as their commander-in-chief.

They threatened revolt. A minor revolt actually did take place. Peron rushed Evita off to hospital, amid public disavowal of her intentions to stand for the vice-presidency.

HER SECRET

WHAT was the secret of Evita's power? Sex appeal? Glamour? She must have had her share. That is made plain by the long list of radio producers and officers who courted her before she met Colonel Juan Peron, then an ambitious young officer on the fringe of politics.

But when I called on her in the autumn of 1949, I could sense nothing about her that

would make men fall desperately in love. She was smart, certainly. Her simple pink straw hat went well with her peroxide hair—originally dark. Her figure was trim under a well-cut blouse and skirt. Large brown eyes shone from rather a waxy, yellow face. Her mouth pouted. She had none of the glow and vital magnetism of the really beautiful woman.

A bevy of sleek young gigolos or officials surrounded her, eagerly awaiting her bidding. She treated them with a patronizing comradely indulgence. But there was nothing of the femme fatale about her. All I could see was just another of those fanatical women politicians I met so often among the Communists and Fascists, determined to dominate and impose themselves and their cause.

CORRUPTION

WHEN I met her she was engaged in a theatrical bit of social welfare work, distributing money, free furniture, free food to a group of needy persons gathered on benches in the theatre-like hall of her "Evita Peron Foundation."

Limelights were turned on her as if it were a stage show; the money and gifts she distributed as though they were a personal gift from herself.

In fact the money came from non-Peronist charities— which she had ordered to close down, or collected from wealthy people afraid of incurring the wrath of the Peronist machine.

Not a penny she told me was distributed without her going into the details of each gift. To do so she worked until the early hours of the morning, drinking in endlessly the idolatrous thanks of the mendicant. This arrogation to herself of the right to control everything down to its smallest details was typical of her whole work.

It caused immense confusion, resulted in colossal corruption scandals, and enriched many of her unworshipful hangers-on.

It is typical too of the chaotic hop, skip, and jump type of Administration that has brought the Peronist Argentine to its present economic distress.

Evita on Peron (1)

Her public appearances are staged to give Juan (Peron), the benevolent, a divine status. Her speeches always begin with a lowering of the eyes, a softening of the voice, a hushed reference to Peron as the "god of the people's interest."

With sun-like humility, she begins quietly: "I am only a simple, meaningless little

woman; I was no better off than you not long ago. Now I exist only to interpret Peron's great crusade to you—his people. I am only here to save his energy, to explain his ideals, to carry out his glorious programme...."

Evita on Peron (2)

"Peron is the air we breathe; Peron is our sun, Peron is life. I want nothing but to be the heart of Peron. Because, though I do my best to understand him and learn his marvellous ways, whenever he makes a decision, I barely mumble. Whenever he gives advice, I scarcely dare make a suggestion. Whenever he speaks, I hardly utter a single word...."

Evita on Evita

From Evita's autobiography: "I said that I am not moved by any personal ambition. And maybe this is not entirely true. Yes, I confess I have an ambition, one sole and great personal ambition. I would like the name of Evita to appear some day in the history of my country. I would like it to say of Evita, even if it would not be more than a small footnote at the end of the wonderful chapter which history will dedicate to Peron, something approximately like this: 'There was, by the side of Peron, a woman who dedicated herself to take to the President the hopes of the people, which Peron would promptly change into realities.'"

(London Express Service)

Saving Is Big New Craze

WASHINGTON. Americans are saving—saving hard.

New York City, one of the greatest aggregations of wealth in the world, is putting more and more money away in savings accounts and bank deposit boxes all the time.

In the first six months of this year the city's bank deposits showed a gain of \$103 million, compared with \$5,400,000 for the first half of 1951.

HOW can people do it, with prices and taxes as they are today?

One way appears to be that they have largely stopped buying household appliances, furniture, radio, and TV sets for the time being. As one expert puts it: "How many refrigerators can a family use? How many cars can you drive at one time?"

But, as usual, the experts are divided into two schools of thought over the underlying reason for the thrift.

One group says people are building up nest eggs because they are jittery about the future and what it may hold. No, say the others—if people think there will be war to

morrow they spend lavishly on the "eat, drink, and be merry" principle. They are saving because they have confidence in a serene and peaceful future.

PAPER dollars are known as "greenbacks" in America, and counsel for Martin Olsen, a Brooklyn bank teller who "went to lunch" taking \$9,000 dollars

**AMERICAN
COLUMN
FROM R.M.
MACCOLL**

(\$13,500) with him, pleads to the judge: "Hitterto Olsen had regarded greenbacks as nothing more than so many green vegetables. But suddenly he thought of all the good things those vegetables would buy and he took the money."

The court, unimpressed, sentenced Olsen to 30 months.

A DRINK called the "Adial Sour" has made its appearance in Washington's cocktail bars.

one of a number of famous ladies: "The plural of spouse appears to be, splice."

THE "summer theatre"—mainly in rustic barns—is a great institution when the hot weather hits Broadway.

But because the audience is apt to get ravaged by flies it is becoming familiarly known as "The Citronella Circuit." People spray themselves with lemon juice to try to keep the flies away.

HEA DLIN E: "Bulky pelt, and huge pelt intact, Farouk says he's coming here." Pelt = wealth.

DOWN in West Palm Beach, Innar cantum of money and high society, there is great activity among the estate agents. Reason: They are all hoping to sell a mansion to Farouk.

WARNING that the tense situation in Persia may require armed American intervention to thwart a Communist seizure of power, the columnists Joseph and Stewart Alsop write:

"It is believed in Washington that a Communist takeover in Persia must be avoided at whatever cost, even the cost of a break with Britain on Middle Eastern policies. This in itself is a measure of the danger to the Western alliance of the crisis now reaching the boiling point in Persia."

BIG JOB MAGNET

by JOHN JUNOR

WHEN the Rev. George Reith, D.D., Minister of the College Church, Glasgow, looked down on his new-born son he must have felt sure, as all fathers do, that the Almighty had mapped out a fine and glowing career for the infant child.

But could he have visualised, this stern Presbyterian minister, that the child who had been baptised John Charles Walstan Reith would one day be the first Baron Reith of Stonehaven? And that in Who's Who it would take no fewer than 17 lines to list his public posts?

Dazzling career

Dazzling indeed has been the career of Lord Reith, the son of the Manse.

Throughout the years he has fitted, like a gaunt crow, from post to post and basked in the favour of Tory and Socialist Governments alike.

Almost without a break since 1922 the dear figure has been engaged in public service.

Has he been a success? Always, always when he takes on a new job he gives the impression of being about to do great things. He exudes a confidence which is so unctuously righteous that it seems heresy to question its soundness.

Seldom, seldom, alas, does his performance match up to his promise.

It was thus during the war years when, in rapid succession, he became Minister of Information, Minister of Transport, and Minister of Works.

He was a striking and splendid figure in all three jobs. A success in none.

'Magic' touch

Yet even when he was sacked and joined the Navy there was still something magical about the man. He carried his lieutenant's stripes with the dignity and bearing of an Admiral of the Fleet.

The admirers of Lord Reith—and he has many besides himself—have never faltered in their faith.

They dismiss each of his failures as being due to bad luck. As proof of his inherent brilliance, they point with pride to the magnificent success he had when he was pre-war boss of the B.B.C.

Lord Reith ran that organisation as if it were a Lord's Day Observance Society. He did not care overmuch what sort of programmes the public wanted. He knew the sort of programmes Lord Reith thought they should get.

He was rigid. He was unrelenting. Yet throughout it all he secured for himself public esteem in immense measure.

But it is not the jobs which Lord Reith has held in the past which should now concern the nation. It is the office he occupies at the moment—the chairmanship of the Colonial Development Corporation.

Those who believe in the Empire appreciate that this is one

of the most important jobs a man can hold. Even those who do not believe in the Empire will not attempt to underwrite its significance.

For whether the Empire may or may not mean something to the British taxpayer, money certainly does. And in the 63 undertakings of the Colonial Development Corporation there are many millions of public money invested.

When Lord Reith was appointed £5,000-a-year chief of these 63 undertakings two years ago, he and his admirers were sure, as usual, that he would make a brilliant success of his new post.

And on this occasion it seemed just possible that they might be right.

His sacrifice

Two points were in Lord Reith's favour:

1. The man whom he was succeeding—Lord Trefgarne—had been such a dismal failure that it would have been difficult even for Reith, in comparison, to have seemed more inefficient.

2. It appeared that Lord Reith really had his heart in his new job, that he was a sincere and passionate believer in Imperial development.

How could it be otherwise when, as he took pains to make clear at the time, he was accepting the job at considerable sacrifice to himself?

But today? Today it is clear that Lord Reith was not alone in making sacrifices. That in appointing him the British Empire has made some gains.

Observe Lord Reith's Colonial career to date. In his first year of office the losses incurred by his predecessor in the previous year were more than doubled. They jumped from £1,320,000 to £2,900,000.

Not to blame

Was Lord Reith to blame? Certainly not. He produced a report in which he frankly and honestly admitted all the errors and mistakes his predecessor had made.

He did not mention Lord Trefgarne by name. But, discreetly, he conveyed the impression that he viewed his predecessor's doings with the same sort of austere distaste as might have been produced in his father the minister by the sight of an elder sleeping through a sermon.

He announced that he was "reading-up" the mess. He hinted that, under the new management—of Lord Reith things would soon be much better. Very much better.

What also has Lord Reith achieved in the last two years, apart from the production of premises?

He has found time to talk in the Lords and write in the Press on the future of broadcasting. He has announced, commendably, that the Colonial Development Corporation will be run in future on more business-like lines.

(Contd. on page 7, col. 1)

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County Cricket

PARKHOUSE SCORES FOUR RUNS IN 55 MINUTES — OTHERS DAWDLE TOO

London, Aug. 7. Rain upset play in most of the County Cricket Championship games today and some of them were halted long before stumps should have been drawn.

Because of the weather, conditions were not too easy for batsmen but there was no real excuse for some of the dawdling which took place. Gilbert Parkhouse, the England and Glamorgan player, once refused to continue batting at Trent Bridge until a section of the crowd quieted down from their barracking. Perhaps they were justified for Parkhouse scored only four runs in one spell of 55 minutes.

Earlier, Nottingham had looked like building up a big lead but their last nine wickets fell for 121, chiefly because of Shepherd's splendid attack.

Rain and the Sussex batsmen severely tried the patience of the Blackpool spectators before a heavy down pour flooded the pitch and terminated the day's play.

The Langridge brothers of Sussex batted an aggregate time of 7½ hours for 127 runs. John taking 4½ hours for 79 and James 3 hours for 48.

CYCLING ACE RETIRES

Perpignan, Aug. 7. Fausto Coppi, Italian cycling ace, winner of the Tour de France this year and in 1949, will race no more, he stated here today.

The famous "camplonsimo" broke his left shoulder blade in a race here yesterday, when he collided with the Spanish rider, Bernardo Ruiz, on a corner.

Coppi, who is 32, excelled in all branches of cycling—marathon, endurance trials like the Tour de France, hill climbing and short sprints.

In this year's Tour de France, over nearly 5,000 kilometers (3,000 miles) he won by more than half an hour over his nearest rival.

All challenges uphill or down against his leadership were easily resisted by the thin, wiry Italian, whose most prominent feature is his large hooked nose, which gave him his nickname of the Eagle.

Coppi won the biggest cycling events in France, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland and elsewhere at various times in his career. In the war he was named as Italy's third star of cycling after Alfredo Binda and Gino Bartali. Since the war he has become No. 1 not only in Italy—but in world cycling—Reuter.

MORE MONEY GOES ON HORSES IN SINGAPORE

Singapore, Aug. 7. Singapore's revenue from duties on totalisator bets and sweepstakes in 1951 totalled M\$4,529,060.20, an increase of M\$1,040,772.34 over 1950.

Duty on sweepstakes paid by the Singapore Turf Club was M\$3,427,813.20. The Club paid M\$1,092,723.50 as duty on totalisator bets. Duty on sweepstakes paid by other clubs, associations and societies that run private sweeps totalled M\$9,124.04.—United Press.

LEAGUE TENNIS

In a Men's "C" Division League tennis match played yesterday, Kowloon Cricket Club and Hongkong University shared honours, each side gaining 4½ points.

Fisher & Soles (K.C.C.) lost to Abbas & Mohideen 2-6; drew with Yue & Yung 6-6; beat Low & Ho 6-3.

D.K. Abbas & Hobbs (K.C.C.) beat Yue & Mohideen 6-3; beat Yue & Yung 6-2; beat Low & Ho 6-0.

Lang & Kunreuther (K.C.C.) lost to Yue & Mohideen 2-6; lost to Yue & Yung 1-6; lost to Low & Ho 6-0.

RECORD-BREAKING RELAY RACE



James McLane first home for the United States in the 800 Metres swimming relay at Helsinki. Second man home was T. Tanikawa (foreground) of Japan. A new Olympic record time was set up in the race. — Express Photo.

Youngsters Brighten English Test Hopes Against Australians

By BRUCE HARRIS

Less than 11 months hence — on June 11, 1953 — the Australians will be entering the field with England for the first of the REAL Test matches, the only ones which grip thoroughly the public imagination, those between the two countries which originated Tests.

In 1948 when the Australians were last in England — under Bradman's captaincy — they won by four victories with one match drawn. In 1950-51, when England were last in Australia, Australia were again the winners, this time with four victories to one match won by England.

This solitary victory was England's first modest success since the "Hutton" match of 1938 at the Oval, where the present captain scored 404 runs off his own bat.

What better chance shall England have next year of winning the Ashes than she had then? Surely a very bright one. Look into the new material now available for building next year's side.

The men who won that fifth Test match at Melbourne in late February 1951 were: L. Hutton, C. Washbrook, R. T. Simpson, D.C.S. Compton, D. S. Sheppard, F. R. Brown, T. G. Evans, A. V. Bedser, T. E. Bailey, D. V. P. Wright and R. Tattersall.

It is a sign of the wastage of cricket material, and of the changes in form, that of these 11 only six have been chosen, 18 months later, for any of the Test matches against India.

Only four were playing in the recent Test at Manchester: Hutton, Evans, Sheppard, Bedser.

EBB AND FLOW OF FORM

These four are certainly probable for next year, with Hutton almost certainly captain. The ebb and flow of form and of selectors' preference may bring Simpson, Compton, Bailey and Tattersall back.

But if England are to beat Australia next year, it must be through the influx of new blood. I believe that the young players have developed to such an extent that there is a very real chance of victory then.

Chief find since the previous series with Australia is Freddy Trueman, a fast bowler.

Any lack which enters the fray, as England have done of late, with no bowler of real pace when the opponents have two, is at a moral disadvantage. We will leave it at that.

Sheppard, though a member of the latest touring side, was then not fully matured in his game. Now he is twice the opening batsman.

Peter May is a discovery who has developed only since the last tour. Tom Graveney has made strides, too.

Tom Lock may be the answer to the need for a slow left-hander, though that remains to be proved.

In bowling England are now well-equipped in every respect

except the leg-spinning right handers. There is no successor to the "Wright-Hollies-Jenkins" generation in view.

But, looking at the complete picture, I do feel that England has developed more young players since 1950 than the Australians.

Thus, English hopes of winning the Ashes next season are higher than at any time since the war. Victory is certainly overdue. The last English success was when D. R. Jardine's side triumphed in their 1932-33 tour.

(London Express Service)

SKATING UNION DECIDES ON CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Hague, Aug. 7. The Committee of the International Skating Union has decided that the European Speed Skating Championships of 1953 shall take place in Amsterdam, probably towards the end of January.

The World Championships for men are to be held at Helsinki, Finland, and those for women at Lillehammer, Norway.

The European Figure Skating Championships are to be held at Dortmund, and the World Championships (also for dancing) at Davos.—Reuter.

Large Number Of Changes In County Captaincies

There is likely to be an unusually large number of changes in the captaincy of county cricket clubs next summer. Sir Derrick Bailey has already announced that he will not be free to lead Gloucestershire again next year, and there may be some tie up here to the rumour at Southampton that Desmond Eagar is to resign as Secretary-Captain of Hampshire.

The Oxford Blue who is senior of the county captains, is Gloucestershire-born and may return home. Otherwise Jack Crapp is likely to get the job of skipper. Eagar, I hear, has also had two offers from the Midlands.

Michael Howard will stand down in Lancashire and his "farm horse" as successor at Old Trafford is Cyril Washbrook. If Freddie Brown's threatened retirement takes place, then Jackie Tribe would succeed him, while in Yorkshire Len Hutton may follow Norman Yardley. Murray Wood, too, is not sure, but may continue to lead Kent, but may be replaced by "the great man" until Michael Cowdrey finishes at Oxford University. David Sheppard is tipped to take James Langridge's place in Sussex, for Langridge wants to become county coach now that "Patsy" Hendren has left.

Thus we may have the spectacle of the following counties being captained by professionals: Warwick (Dollery), Middlesex (Compton, upon succession), Gloucester (Crapp), Northants (Tribe), Yorkshire (Hutton)

YESTERDAY'S BOWLS

Fighting Display By Hircock And McCutcheon

Highlight of the four third round matches of the Colony Open Fairs Lawn Bowls Championship played yesterday was the fighting display put up by A. W. Hircock and J. McCutcheon.

Although they were defeated by 22-11 by the Championship favourites, J. A. Luz and R. F. Luz, they held their own on no fewer than 17 out of the 21 heads in an evening's brilliant exhibition of bowls.

They even enjoyed a slight edge over their opponents at this stage, leading by 11-10 at the end of the 10th head and looked well set for a major victory when an unfortunate shot by McCutcheon put them off their trail.

From the very first head Dame Fortune made it quite clear, on whose side she was, McCutcheon shifted the jack twice in succession to the four, only to see Raul Luz draw the first shot with his last wood. At the end of the first four heads the Luz brothers were leading by 5-0.

They led by 20-13 on the 17th head, but the Luzers came back with a good recovery on the last four heads, scoring a single and three successive threes.

A. E. Conter and L. S. Silva were extended by F. X. Shields and J. Landolt before winning by 10-11. They were 2-5 down at the end of the 5th head, but recovered with a four on the 6th, Shields and Landolt extended to the 15th head, the score at 10-11, but added away after conceding seven shots on the next four heads.

THE SCORES

J. A. Luz and R. F. Luz beat A. W. Hircock and J. McCutcheon 22-11.

M. Divchea and F. Kernani beat A. L. Roberts and F. Marshall 25-18.

G. Hong Choy and G. Souza beat M. J. Medina and C. W. Lam 20-23.

L. S. Silva and A. E. Conter beat F. X. Shields and J. Landolt 10-11.

TODAY'S GAMES

Open Pairs At HKFC: C. Pope and J. McDonald v. R. M. V. Ribeiro and A. Lopes.

Open Singles At HKFC: G. Hong Choy v. W. C. Simpson.

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"HUNAN"	Tientsin	10 a.m. 18th Aug.
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S. "AENEAS" Liverpool	10th Aug.
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G. "CALCHAS" do	31st Aug.
S. "PYRRHUS" do	10th Sept.
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"BENATOW"	U.K. via Singapore " 1st Sept.
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"BENCLEUCH"	U.K. " 20th Sept.
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Douglas, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 34

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES



	Arriving	Leaving	Outward For
"GRENADIER"	Aug. 27	Sept. 1	Europe
"FALASSE"	Sept. 1	Sept. 21	Europe
			Homebound For
"MEKONG"	Keelung Aug. 10	Aug. 12	N. Africa & Europe
"FELIX ROUSSET"	Hongkong Aug. 15	Aug. 18	Yokohama & Manila
"COURSEULLES"	Aug. 18	Sept. 9	N. Africa & Europe

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Via Djibouti to Madagascar.
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"BRADEVERETT"
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Sails Aug. 14 for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta.

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M.S. "NORDSTJERNAN"
Arrives Aug. 14 from Japan.
Sails Aug. 15 for Singapore, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kharramshahr & Basrah.

(Accepting cargo for transshipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

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Japan-Indonesia Trade Pact

Tokyo, Aug. 7.
Japan and Indonesia today signed a trade agreement after nine months of negotiations.
Under the agreement Japan will send Indonesia \$50,000,000 worth of textile, metal products and other goods and will import \$100,000,000 worth of Indonesian rubber, oil, petroleum and other materials. — Associated Press.

British Pact With Japan
EXTENSION SAID AGREED

Tokyo, Aug. 7.
Informed sources in Tokyo said today that the Anglo-Japanese Payments Agreement will be extended for four months without revisions. Japan had asked for such an extension, and Britain was ready to agree, they added.

The sources said that no negotiations were taking place for a new agreement, largely because the International Trade and Industry Ministry, the Finance Ministry and the Exchange Control Board had failed to reach an accord on Japan's stand on the proposals to be made to Britain.

Official circles discounted reports that Japan would request the insertion of a dollar clause, although they claimed that the clause was shelved by Japan on the British promise that they would not cut imports from Japan, which she did in fact.

This would considerably decrease Japan's trade with the Sterling Area, but on the other hand, it would be too difficult to conclude a trade agreement, as desired in certain Japanese circles, because there were too many nations belonging to the Sterling Area.

The Japanese, however, would like to see an approximate figure of the yearly volume of goods to be exchanged between Japan and the Sterling Area, parallel with the payments agreement, official circles said.

They stressed that Japan was anxious to purchase more from the Sterling Area but that it was difficult owing to the shortage of goods required by Japan in these countries.

Meanwhile, the inflow of Sterling into Japan seems to have slowed down owing to the Sterling countries' restrictions on imports from Japan, and Japan would await the development of the new situation before conducting negotiations for a new agreement. — France-Press.

Weekly Bank Statements

London, Aug. 7.
The Bank of England statement for the week ending August 6 reads as follows:—
£1,608,300,000
Total of other currencies 3,653,510,597
Public deposits 3,399,000,000
Private deposits 225,400,000
Government securities 225,700,000
Other securities 48,152,000
Receipts 43,817,000
Bank ratio 12.1
—United Press.

BANK OF FRANCE
Paris, Aug. 7.
The Bank of France statement for the week ending July 31 reads as follows:—
Total gold holdings Frs. 101,448,078,720
Total of other currencies 3,653,510,597
Sight balances abroad 3,399,000,000
Advance to currency 225,400,000
Stabilization fund 225,700,000
France and abroad 447,660,204,887
Notes in circulation 1,994,940,200,913
Current accounts 122,202,000,000
—United Press.

New York Sugar Futures

New York, Aug. 7.
World sugar futures closed today unchanged to 3 lower with sales totalling 100 contracts.
Contract No. 6 closed 1 lower to 6 higher with sales totalling 64 contracts.
Prices, closed today as follows:—
CONTRACT NO. 4 (world)
September 4.05
October 4.00 bid
January (1953) 3.81 bid
May 3.64 bid
July 3.53 bid
September 3.40 bid
—United Press.

CONTRACT NO. 6
September 4.05
October 4.00 bid
January (1953) 3.81 bid
May 3.64 bid
July 3.53 bid
September 3.40 bid
—United Press.

Increased Financial Help To Backward Countries Proposed

London, Aug. 6.
The lack of adequate investment in the under-developed territories inspires a Labour Party proposal for an extension of financial assistance under the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts.

The Party's second policy publication since the General Election, entitled "Towards World Plenty," makes the proposal without going into details.

While pressing for the C.D. and W. funds extension, the Party will urge also, it is stated, increased facilities for the training of craftsmen and technicians in Britain in co-operation with Colonial Governments.

"Further assistance," the Labour Policy statement continues, "will be given to the expansion of technical education within the Colonial territories, and every possible effort will be made to help the Colonies to develop their technical experts who require for more rapid economic development."

While Commonwealth countries must be the first concern of the British Government, the Labour Party, it is stated, recognises the need for international action in this field of aid to the under-developed areas. It offers support for some such international effort as the International Development Agency, under consideration by the United Nations as a means of administering grants-in-aid to under-developed countries for investment in public services. This Agency, experts have forecast, would require a fund increasing up to 3,000 million dollars a year.

The part under-developed countries themselves should play is summed up as follows in "Towards World Plenty":

"Much of the initiative, a great part of the work, and a share of the financial burden must come from the under-developed countries, themselves. Their governments face tremendous tasks. They must provide honest, efficient and energetic administrations which will win the confidence of their peoples and overcome the apathy which everywhere hinders development. There must be willingness to accept new ideas, to adopt new techniques and to enter into a vital partnership with the advanced countries in an all-out attack on poverty."

POPULATION V. OUTPUT
"Towards World Plenty" begins with a review of the threat "in the present century" of a world starvation crisis.

Food production is not increasing as rapidly as world population, and "the extreme poverty of the peoples of Africa and Asia and the other under-developed areas is a challenge to the whole world." Development of the under-developed areas is essential, it is stated, if food supplies are to meet the needs of the world's growing population.

The authors of the publication answer those who declare it is fruitless to raise the standard of living in under-developed areas because any increase in production will at once lead to a corresponding increase in population.

"The experience of the world does not bear this out," says the Labour publication. "The Western world has disproved the Malthusian proposition that it is impossible to increase production faster than population. Populations grow rapidly in the Nineteenth Century, but production grew very much faster, and the standard of living rose substantially."

Dealing with further arguments—that population can grow faster in the 20th Century than it could in the 19th and that production cannot be increased as fast—the publication goes on to point out that:—

AT SAME RATE
"Contrary to popular belief, the white and coloured populations of the world are at present increasing at about the same rate, which is not as rapid as that at which the white population was increasing 40 years ago."

Posing the question whether the standard of living can be maintained or increased by an increase of two per cent or more in world production during the next 20 or 30 years, it is stated that "with no new continents to be opened up, we have to rely upon increasing the productivity of lands already under cultivation."

As to how much new land can be brought under cultivation, it is admitted that one of the major obstacles "is political hostility to human migration." In the Indian country, it is recalled, this opening up of new lands was hampered by great movements of people out of the region, India and China.

There still remain under-populated lands in Australia, in the islands of South East Asia and in Africa," the Labour statement goes on, "but it is unlikely that these will be settled."

One way out of the problem would be improved techniques of the millions of small farmers of Asia and Africa. It is urged, could be helped to improve their techniques, food production can be increased rapidly, and in fact more rapidly than population will grow. — London Express Service.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET
(From Our Correspondent)
Trams were most in demand in a quiet morning's trading on the Stock Exchange, when total turnover was valued at \$210,000,000.58. Noble quotations and the morning's transactions:—
SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES
BANKS
HSBC Bank 137 1/2 100 1/2 142
Canton 141 100 1/2 210
Union 134 110 21 7/8 74 1/2
INDUSTRIALS
Asia Nav. 1 1/2 200 0 1 1/2
DOCKS, ETC.
Provident 12 30
Shui Kee 12 1/2 42 1/2
LAND, ETC.
H.K. Land (C) 43 1/2 0 1/2
H.K. Land (S) 43 1/2 0 1/2
Shui Kee 12 1/2 42 1/2
UTILITIES
Tram 10 7/8 10 3/4 49 1/2
P. Tram (C) 23 100 0 23 1/2
S. Tram (S) 23 100 0 23 1/2
C. Light (C) 5 1/2 102 100 0 5 1/2
Electric (S) 5 1/2 102 100 0 5 1/2
Electric (C) 5 1/2 102 100 0 5 1/2
Telephone 10 100 0 10
INDUSTRIALS
Cement 17 1/2 100 0 17 1/2
Rope 16 100 0 16
Dairy 19 1/2 100 0 19 1/2
Watson 23 1/2 100 0 23 1/2
L.C. (R) 9 100 0 9
Evo 2 1/2 100 0 2 1/2

Nationalist Proposals To Japan
For Trade With SE Asia

Tokyo, Aug. 7.
Informed sources said today that General Chiang Kai-shek's official envoy last night invited the Japanese Premier to seek a major link-up with Formosa in approaching the South-East Asian markets.

The proposal was understood to have been made during a three-hour conference at the Premier's Hakone villa between the Prime Minister, Shigeru Yoshida, General Chiang Chun, and the State Minister, Takekazu Ogata, who recently returned from his trip to South-East Asian countries as Mr Yoshida's personal goodwill envoy.

What transpired during this first meeting between Premier Yoshida and General Chiang Chun, who arrived here on August 2, was not disclosed officially. Informed sources, however, said that General Chiang Chun, while stressing the importance of Sino-Japanese co-operation in the defence against Communism, enthusiastically discussed the possibilities of the two countries' joint endeavours for economic development of the southern regions.

The sources understood that General Chiang Chun urged Mr Yoshida to link Japanese capital and technique with the southern markets dominated by overseas Chinese merchants, whom the Nationalist government may mobilise for such co-operation.

As a practical means of pushing this programme, General Chiang was reported to have proposed the establishment of a Sino-Japanese development company jointly invested by private Japanese and overseas Chinese merchants and backed by the Japanese government's Sterling holdings.

This "southward expansion" would preclude the necessity of the Japanese emphasis on trade with Red China, which General Chiang Chun said was undesirable from the political point of view, the same sources said. — France-Press.

The Rubber Markets

London, Aug. 7.
Prices of rubber futures closed today as follows:—
Number 1 rubber, 30-30 1/2
In cents per lb. 30-30 1/2
September 30-30 1/2
October 30-30 1/2
November 30-30 1/2
December 30-30 1/2
January 30-30 1/2
February 30-30 1/2
March 30-30 1/2
April 30-30 1/2
—United Press.

SINGAPORE MARKET
Singapore, Aug. 7.
Prices of rubber futures closed today as follows:—
Number 1 rubber, 30-30 1/2
In cents per lb. 30-30 1/2
September 30-30 1/2
October 30-30 1/2
November 30-30 1/2
December 30-30 1/2
January 30-30 1/2
February 30-30 1/2
March 30-30 1/2
April 30-30 1/2
—United Press.

NEW YORK MARKET
New York, Aug. 7.
Prices of rubber futures closed today 30 lower to 25 higher with sales totalling 37 contracts. Prices closed today as follows:—
September 30-30 1/2
October 30-30 1/2
November 30-30 1/2
December 30-30 1/2
January 30-30 1/2
February 30-30 1/2
March 30-30 1/2
April 30-30 1/2
—United Press.

Exchange Rates
Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:—
£1.00 (per \$1) 15.25
\$1.00 (per £1) 6.50
Indonesian guilders (per 100) 3.50
Siam baht (per 100) 31.00
Sri Lanka (per 100) 1.75
—United Press.

Copra Quotation
New York, Aug. 7.
Copra was quoted today at \$182.50 per short ton, nominal. Coconut oil was quoted at 9 1/2 cents a pound, asked. — United Press.

JAPANESE BONDS
London, Aug. 7.
Japanese bonds:—
(A) (4% of 1950) 88
(B) (4% of 1951) 70
(C) (4% of 1952) 127 1/2
(D) (4% of 1953) 93
(E) (4% of 1954) 144
Consols 87 1/2
—United Press.

ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES

SHIP	DATE	TO
"STRAAT HANNA"	Aug. 8	Japan, Korea, S. America
"TJITALENOKA"	Aug. 9	Singapore, Mauritius, S. Africa & S. America
"TJISADANE"	Aug. 12	Japan, Korea, S. America
"TJIDODAS"	Aug. 12	Djakarta, Tjibon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJILUWAI"	Aug. 16	Singapore, Djakarta, Palembang & Belawan Deli
"VAN HEUTZ"	Aug. 21	Singapore, Djakarta, Palembang & Belawan Deli
"TJIVANOT"	Sept. 9	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"STRAAT HANNA"	Sept. 7	Jakarta, Tjibon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJITALENOKA"	Sept. 7	Jakarta, Tjibon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJISADANE"	Sept. 9	Manila, Singapore, Mauritius, S. Africa & S. America
"TJIDODAS"	Sept. 19	Singapore, Djakarta, Palembang & Belawan Deli
"TJILUWAI"	Sept. 23	Singapore, Djakarta, Palembang & Belawan Deli
"TJIVANOT"	Oct. 2	Jakarta, Tjibon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"STRAAT HANNA"	Oct. 9	Jakarta, Tjibon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJITALENOKA"	Oct. 12	Singapore, Djakarta, Palembang & Belawan Deli
"TJISADANE"	Oct. 16	Singapore, Djakarta, Palembang & Belawan Deli
"TJIDODAS"	Oct. 17	Jakarta, Tjibon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJILUWAI"	Nov. 2	Singapore, Djakarta, Palembang & Belawan Deli

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M.S. "ANNA MAERSK" Sept. 10

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES IN N.Y.

New York, Aug. 7.
Canada—official 1.00
England—official 2.25 bid
unofficial 2.25 asked
30-day futures 2.25 1/2
90-day futures 2.25 1/2
Australia 2.25 1/2
New Zealand 2.25 1/2
South Africa 2.25 1/2
Belgium 2.25 1/2
Denmark 2.25 1/2
France 2.25 1/2
West Germany 2.25 1/2
Holland 2.25 1/2
Italy 2.25 1/2
Norway 2.25 1/2
Portugal 2.25 1/2
Spain 2.25 1/2
Sweden 2.25 1/2
Switzerland 2.25 1/2

MIDDLE EAST
Egypt 2.25 1/2
Iran 2.25 1/2
Iraq 2.25 1/2
Turkey 2.25 1/2

LATIN AMERICA
Argentina 2.25 1/2
Brazil 2.25 1/2
Bolivia 2.25 1/2
Chile 2.25 1/2
Colombia 2.25 1/2
Cuba 2.25 1/2
Mexico 2.25 1/2
Peru 2.25 1/2
Uruguay 2.25 1/2
Venezuela 2.25 1/2

FAR EAST
India 2.25 1/2
Pakistan 2.25 1/2
Hongkong 2.25 1/2
Yokohama 2.25 1/2
Singapore 2.25 1/2
Japan 2.25 1/2

LONDON TIN MARKET
London, Aug. 7.
The tin market opened irregular but steadied on a little bear covering. Rumour was heavy at 220 tons of which five tons were for cash. Prices closed at the end of the official morning session as follows:—
Spot tin, buyers 217 1/2
Business done at 217 1/2
Three-month tin buyers 217 1/2
Business done at 217 1/2
Settlement 217 1/2
—United Press.

NY Pepper Market
New York, Aug. 7.
The pepper market rallied quiet and steady today. Spot market was indicated at around \$1.70, awaiting release \$1.75, nearby \$1.70 and later arrivals \$1.60 a pound. — United Press.

A Six-Point Plan For Helping The Cotton Industry

London, Aug. 7.
Mr Harold Wilson, President of the Board of Trade in the last Socialist Government until he resigned over a difference of opinion with the Party leadership on economic policy, has outlined a "Six-Point Plan" for helping the Lancashire cotton industry.

This, he claims, would take it "over the hump" of the present recession.

What is needed now he says in an interview with the Daily Mirror, is the re-equipment of the industry with more modern machinery, and a sense of urgency on both sides about adopting new and more efficient methods of working.

The plan he presents is:—
1. A Commonwealth economic conference to deal with the

problem of export markets in the light of the recent import cuts imposed by Australia and South Africa.

2. Decisive action by the British Government with the United States and other countries for setting up immediate long-term agreements to stabilise the price and guarantee the supply of raw cotton.

3. The Cotton Board, representing managements, employees and consumers—working out a long-term plan for greater efficiency in the industry.

4. Removal of purchase tax from textiles and re-introduction of "utility" standards.

5. Government purchase of clothing and household linen for distribution to old folk through the Assistance Board, in addition to textiles for the defence programme.

6. Expenditure of £20,000,000 by the Government in buying up "surplus" stocks and holding them. Mr Wilson believes these could be sold later at a profit "once confidence was re-established."

Mr Wilson concludes: "Mr Churchill should revive his wartime practice and instruct his Ministers that in this time of crisis for Lancashire the watchword is 'Action this day.'"

—London Express Service.

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